

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-13 and 15-20 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 10, 19 and 20 being independent

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and amended to correct minor informalities and improve their idiomatic English form. In amending the abstract, it has been shortened so as not to exceed a 150 words, as required by the Examiner.

In addition, the claims have been amended to more clearly recite Applicants' invention and further distinguish it from the cited art.

Initially, the drawings are objected to for failing to include reference numerals I0 and I1 as discussed, for example, on page 14, lines 26 and 27, of the specification, in the drawings. This objection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed in the specification, the designation I1 and I0 refers to the optical intensity of light on the reflective liquid crystal display device and on the polarizing member. As such, the optical intensity is not, per se, a feature of Applicants' claimed invention and does not have to be shown in the drawings. What is more, it is respectfully submitted that optical intensity is a property and not a feature, and thus does not lend itself to being depicted in the drawings. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-9, 12, 13, 15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Particular attention was paid to the grounds for this rejection as set forth on page 5 of the Office Action in amending the claims as shown above. In particular, Claims 7 and 15 have been amended to recite that the polarizing member is capable of polarizing illumination light and analyzing the image light. In addition, Claims 1, 12, 13 and 19

have been amended to remove the redundant claim language. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 3 and 4 are indicated as containing patentable subject matter. These claims remain in dependent form, however, as it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is patentable in its own right for the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1, 2, 7-13 and 15-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Yamazaki '241. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention as set forth in Claims 1 and 10 relates to an image display apparatus comprising a light source for supplying illumination light, a reflection type display device which reflects the illumination light and modulates the illumination light into image light, and an illumination optical system for guiding the illumination light to the reflection type display device.

In Claim 1, the illumination optical system comprises a first optical member for directing the illumination light toward the reflection type display device, and a second optical member. As amended, the second optical member includes a part generating a second light source with the illumination light emitted from the light source, in which the light from the part emerges toward the first optical member, and a reflecting surface which guides illumination light which is not incident directly on the part to the part.

The illumination optical system in Claim 10 includes a first optical member for directing the illumination light toward the reflection type display device, and a second optical member including a reflecting surface which deflects a principle optical path of the illumination light from the light source and emitting the illumination light, reflected by the reflecting surface, toward the first optical member.

Claims 19 and 20 relate to an optical system that includes an illumination optical system having the features of Claims 1 and 10, respectively.

In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, the illumination optical system provides an efficient use of light. In this way, a superior image display apparatus can be provided.

Yamazaki relates to a composite display apparatus that includes a display optical system 101, an image pickup optical system 102, and a see-through optical system 103. In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, however, it is respectfully submitted that Yamazaki does not teach or suggest, among other features, Applicants' claimed illumination optical system as set forth in Claims 1 or 10, in which a first optical member directs the illumination light toward the reflection type display device and a second optical member either generates a secondary light source that emerges toward the first optical member and guides illumination light to the part that generate the secondary light source, or deflects a principle optical path of the illumination light and emits the illumination light toward the first optical member.

In Yamazaki, the display optical system 101 is an LCD, and image pickup optical system 102 is a CCD image optical system. These systems do not treat the illumination light as set forth in Applicants' claims. Moreover, the see-through optical system 103 in Yamazaki guides light from outside through an optical path separator to an eyeball 1, but also fails to teach or suggest using the illumination light as recited in Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

Therefore, it is submitted that this invention as set forth in independent Claims 1, 10, 19 and 20 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 2, 4, 7-9, 11-13 and 15-18 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Accompanying this paper is a check for \$180.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and §1.17(p).

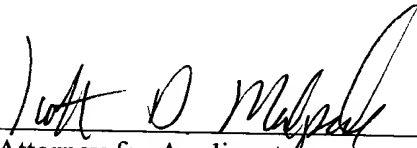
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our
below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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